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□ Hollow fibre **membrane** filter **cleaning** - by blowing non-oxidative gas with **cleaning** water into the **membrane** .

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Method of **cleaning** hollow fibre **membrane** filter comprises blowing gas with cleaning water into inside or outside of the membrane, so fine particulates adhering to the surface of the membrane are purged out with the cleaning water. Non-oxidative gas is used as the gas. The gas is nitrogen, carbon dioxide, inert or hydrogen **gas**. Cleaning **water** is made to **flow** from the inside to the outside of the membrane by the pressure of the **gas**. Cleaning **water** is made to **flow** the from the inside to the outside of the membrane and then from the outside to the inside of the membrane.

ADVANTAGE - In the conventional cleaning using air, positive ions and ultra-fine particulates are oxidised and deposited on inner surface of the membrane, resulting in a decline of filterability. In the present method, because the non-oxidative gas is used instead of air, the deposition of oxidised matter on the inner surface of the membrane does not occur, so the **cleaning** of the **membrane** can be performed well.

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